

Today's News - Wednesday, November 4, 2015

- ANN Feature: Webb explains how and why Active Design principles in office design can save lives.
- Shaw ponders what two architectural factions that seem at odds with each other (form-makers and do-gooders) could learn from the "realm of landscape architecture," where "these ambitions seem to be in harmony more than ever."
- A report on how the Hudson Webber Foundation's 15x15 Initiative in Detroit has created a "unified vision" to transform the city's downtown by "exploring placemaking as a talent retention and attraction strategy."
- A new study digs down to the root of Sydney and Melbourne's housing crisis: "we're building the wrong thing. Policy has been driven by advice from commentators using a flawed evidence base. None have grasped the scale of need for family-friendly housing, or understood the full effects of ageing in place."
- Moore gives (mostly) thumbs-up to a new housing project in Newcastle: despite its imperfections, "its virtues are basically simple and repeatable - its influence could be profound" (and it sure beats the curved roofs that "crawl like big grey slugs" atop another project).
- Baillieu cheers next year's Venice Biennale British Pavilion's theme tackling "the housing debate with a different twist. We need to build homes the Netflix generation actually wants."
- Wainwright explains "why North Korea's buildings echo Wes Anderson film sets," and bemoans the marble mosaics and parquet floors "being ripped out in favor of a wipe-clean world" of vinyl and plastic that "have become the hallmark of contemporary taste (his own photos to prove it!)."
- Betsky, meanwhile, pens a love letter to Seoul, South Korea: "it sprawls and is jammed with traffic, and its building stock is not that great - but it is the kind of metropolitan construction that seethes with energy and variety - the last thing we need is another set of foreign consultants jetting into a place to tell people there what to do."
- Eyefuls of Piano's first residential project in the U.S.: a glassy, oblong tower in Miami's North Beach (where else?).
- Civitas and Stantec win London, Ontario's Back To The River competition, but "there are two obvious hurdles. One, the price tag. And, two, the vision. Bold, daring and decidedly un-London."
- Oberlander takes home the annual \$50,000 Margolese National Design for Living Prize for her "contributions to the development or improvement of living environments for Canadians of all economic classes."
- McGrath is certainly ruffling a lot of feathers with his claim that "you need to go to an elite university to win the Stirling Prize."
- Mulligan eloquently mulls Kiyonori Kikutake's profound influence on architecture in Japan's postwar decades: "young Japanese architects confronted the challenge of rebuilding the devastated nation. Kikutake was one of the most gifted."

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[A More Active Approach to Design Can Save Lives: Businesses are investing billions to make their workspaces more environmentally sustainable. But they should also consider how sustainable those workspaces are for the human beings who work in them. By Jonathan Webb- ArchNewsNow.com](#)

[Editorial> Landscape Operations: Matt Shaw wonders what architecture can learn from landscape design's recent successes: ...an ongoing crisis in architecture that has divided the discipline. In one camp is a group of architects who work to build new forms...In the other camp, a group is far less concerned with form-making, and more with attempting to make the world better...architects seem to struggle to reconcile these differences. In the realm of landscape architecture, however, these ambitions seem to be in harmony more than ever. - The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[How a unified vision helped transform Detroit's greater downtown: A special report examines how the Hudson Webber Foundation's 15x15 Initiative: ...began exploring placemaking as a talent retention and attraction strategy....Not only are there more opportunities to get a job...but more and more residents now have access to resources and support to help them pursue their own entrepreneurial endeavors. - Model D \(Detroit\)](#)

[The root of Sydney and Melbourne's housing crisis: we're building the wrong thing: ...new study...highlights the need for rigorous academic research to inform public urban policy. Policy has been driven by advice from commentators using a flawed evidence base. None have grasped the scale of need for family-friendly housing, or understood the full effects of ageing in place... \[link to report\]- ArchitectureAU \(Australia\)](#)

[The Malings - a welcome tale of the riverbank: Ouseburn, Newcastle Upon Tyne: Ash Sakula's development of modest urban dwellings provides a masterclass in quiet invention, style and sustainable living: Its design-and-build construction contract has contributed to some imperfect external finishes. But its virtues are basically simple and repeatable...if its lessons are followed...its influence could be profound. By Rowan Moore \[images\]- Observer \(UK\)](#)

[We need to build homes the Netflix generation actually wants: Amanda Baillieu welcomes Venice's focus on the housing of the future: Generation Rent will continue to grow...policymakers are keen to debate the housing crisis and architects are duly asked to come up with ideas...The results are patchy....next year's British Pavilion, curated by Shumi Bose, Jack Self and Finn Williams, is revisiting the housing debate with a different twist. - BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Moonrise kingdom: why North Korea's buildings echo Wes Anderson film sets: There are striking similarities between the director's oddball locations and Pyongyang's interiors - but these symmetrical set pieces are under threat: Marble mosaics and wooden parquet floors are progressively being ripped out in favour of a wipe-clean world of modern materials...Vinyl floors and plastic mouldings have become the hallmark of contemporary taste. By Oliver Wainwright \[images\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Postcard From Seoul: K-Pop Urbanism: Seoul, South Korea, a city with plenty to offer in terms of urban design: It is messy and full of problems, it sprawls and is jammed with traffic, and its building stock is not that great - but it is the kind of metropolitan construction that seethes with energy and variety...the last thing we need is another set of foreign consultants jetting into a place to tell people there what to do. By Aaron Betsky \[images\]- Architect Magazine](#)

[Renzo Piano unveils plans for glass tower on Miami Beach: ...the firm's first residential project in the U.S...Eighty Seven Park will sit between parkland and the Atlantic Ocean in \[the\] North Beach district...the glass tower will feature oblong floors and wrap-around balconies...17-storey-building...70 apartments... \[images\]- Dezeen](#)

[Denver-based firm named winner of London \[Ontario\] Back To The River competition: Jurors...chose a bold design...as the blueprint to retool the Thames River. An elevated boardwalk, dubbed The Ribbon, is the centrepiece...But there are two obvious hurdles...One, the price tag...And, two, the vision. Bold, daring and decidedly un-London... -- Civitas + Stantec \[images\]- The London Free Press \(Canada\)](#)

[Cornelia Hahn Oberlander wins \\$50,000 Margolese National Design for Living Prize: ...annual prize recognizes a Canadian who has made and continues to make outstanding contributions to the development or improvement of living environments for Canadians of all economic classes. - Canadian Architect](#)

[Why you need to go to an elite university to win the Stirling Prize: Where architects study is a depressingly good predictor of whether they'll succeed: Had his life not been so cruelly cut short, would aspiring architect Stephen Lawrence ever have found himself in a position to win or be shortlisted ...Would his state education have been sufficient to launch a successful career...It](#)

would seem that getting into a top school of architecture is a prerequisite for success. By Paul McGrath- BD/Building Design (UK)

Kiyonori Kikutake: Structuring the Future: In the postwar decades, young Japanese architects confronted the challenge of rebuilding the devastated nation. Kikutake was one of the most gifted: ...it was Kikutake whose more than 50-year career most profoundly and persistently explored Metabolism's central polemic on the lifespan of buildings and their systems. By Mark Mulligan [excerpt from from "Between Land and Sea: Works of Kiyonori Kikutake" edited by Ken Tadashi Oshima] [images]- Places Journal



OMA: A new art space for Fondazione Prada located in a former industrial complex [in Milan] may sound like the cliché of the 21st century gallery. It is, however, anything but: ...it is undoubtedly the zenith of the collaboration between the two cultural powerhouses...Totally open to the city and rooted in the existing fabric of the site...a provocative and totally new kind of art space... By Nina Tory-Henderson [images]

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